

CLAIMS

1. An information processing apparatus comprising: a  
first device; and a second device connected to the first  
5 device in an attachable/detachable or fixed manner,

the first device comprising:

first communication means for communicating with  
fifth communication means of an external communication  
device;

10 second communication means for communicating with  
the second device; and

a first control section for controlling processing  
in the first communication means, the second communication  
means, and the first device,

15 the second device comprising:

third communication means for communicating with  
the second communication means;

fourth communication means for communicating with  
sixth communication means of the communication device or a  
20 communication device which is different from the  
communication device; and

a second control section for controlling  
processing in the third communication means, the fourth  
communication means, and the second device.

2. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein on receiving a third process command from the first communication means, the first control section sends the third process command or a command corresponding to the process command to the third communication means via the second communication means,

the second control section once holds a response to the command received via the third communication means, processes a first process request received via the fourth communication means, and sends a second process request which is the held response to the second communication means via the third communication means in a case where a new process is required in processing the first process request, and

the first control section processes the second process request received via the second communication means, and sends the process response to the third communication means via the second communication means.

3. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first device comprises output means for outputting information,

on receiving a third process command from the first communication means, the first control section sends the third process command or a command corresponding to the

process command to the third communication means via the second communication means,

the second control section once holds a response to a command received via the third communication means,

5 processes the first process request received via the fourth communication means, and sends information produced as a result of the processing of the first process request as the held response to the second communication means via the third communication means, and

10 the first control section sends the information received via the second communication means to the output means.

4. The information processing apparatus according to  
15 claim 1, wherein the first device comprises output means for outputting information,

on receiving a third process command from the first communication means, the first control section sends the third process command or a command corresponding to the  
20 process command to the third communication means via the second communication means,

the second control section once holds a response to the command received via the third communication means, processes a first process request received via the fourth  
25 communication means, and sends additional information added

to the first process request as the held response to the second communication means via the third communication means, when the processing of the first process request is completed, and

5           the first control section sends the additional information received via the second communication means to the output means.

5.           The information processing apparatus according to  
10 claim 1, wherein the first communication means performs communication in a communication system which does not have any directivity, and

              the fourth communication means performs communication in a communication system having the  
15 directivity or by a point-blank range.

6.           An information processing apparatus comprising: a first device; and a second device connected to the first device in an attachable/detachable or fixed manner,

20           the first device comprising:

              a communication section which communicates with an external communication terminal;

              first communication means for detecting the communication of the communication section;

25           second communication means for communicating with

the second device; and

a first control section which performs the  
communication section, the first communication means, the  
second communication means, and control of a process in the  
5 first device,

the second device comprising:

third communication means for communicating with  
the second communication means;

fourth communication means for communicating with  
10 the communication terminal via the communication section;  
and

a second control section which performs the third  
communication means, the fourth communication means, and  
control of a process in the second device.

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7. The information processing apparatus according to  
claim 6, wherein in the first device, the communication  
section receives a first process request from the  
communication terminal,

20 the first communication means detects the  
reception, and the first control section sends a third  
process command to the third communication means via the  
second communication means,

in the second device, the second control section  
25 once holds a response to the third process command received

via the third communication means,

the fourth communication means receives the first process request via the communication section,

the second control section processes the first  
5 process request received via the fourth communication means,  
and sends a second process request which is the held response to the second communication means via the third communication means in a case where a new process is required in processing the first process request, and

10 the first control section processes the second process request received via the second communication means, and sends the process response to the third communication means via the second communication means.

15 8. The information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the first device comprises output means for outputting information,

in the first device, the communication section receives the first process request from the communication  
20 terminal,

the first communication means detects the reception, and the first control section sends a third process command to the third communication means via the second communication means,

25 in the second device, the second control section

once holds a response to the third process command received  
via the third communication means,

the fourth communication means receives the first  
process request via the communication section,

5 the second control section processes the first  
process request received via the fourth communication means,  
and sends information produced as a result of the  
processing of the first process request as the held  
response to the second communication means via the third  
10 communication means, and

the first control section sends the information  
received via the second communication means to the output  
means.

15 9. The information processing apparatus according to  
claim 6, wherein the first device comprises output means  
for outputting information,

in the first device, the communication section  
receives a first process request from a communication  
20 terminal,

the first communication means detects the  
reception, and the first control section sends the third  
process command to the third communication means via the  
second communication means,

25 in the second device, the second control section

once holds a response to the third process command received via the third communication means,

the fourth communication means receives the first process request via the communication section,

5           the second control section processes the first process request received via the fourth communication means, and sends additional information added to the first process request as the held response to the second communication means via the third communication means, when the  
10 processing of the first process request is completed, and

the first control section sends the additional information received via the second communication means to the output means.

15 10.       The information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the fourth communication means performs communication in a communication system having directivity or by a point-blank range.

20 11.       The first device according to any one of claims 1 to 10.

12.       The second device according to any one of claims 1 to 10.



13. A communication device which communicates with the information processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 10, the communication device comprising:

fifth communication means for communicating with  
5 first communication means of the information processing apparatus; and

sixth communication means for communicating with fourth communication means of the information processing apparatus,

10 wherein the sixth communication means sends, to the fourth communication means, a first process request with respect to a second device of the information processing apparatus,

the fifth communication means sends, to the first  
15 communication means, a process command with respect to a first device of the information processing apparatus before sending the first process request, and

the process command is a process command to perform a process in cooperation with the processing of the  
20 first process request.

14. A communication device which communicates with an information processing apparatus comprising two or more communication means, the communication device comprising:

25 fifth communication means for communicating with

first communication means of the information processing apparatus; and

sixth communication means for communicating with fourth communication means of the information processing apparatus,  
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wherein the sixth communication means sends, to the fourth communication means, a first process request with respect to the information processing apparatus, and

the fifth communication means sends, to the first  
10 communication means, a process command to perform a process in cooperation with the processing of the first process request before sending the first process request.